

TESTIMONY ON
HB 5342 AN ACT CONCERNING THE LICENSING AND RECORD KEEPING
OF PAWNBROKERS AND PRECIOUS METAL AND STONE DEALERS, THE
RETENTION OF CERTAIN GOODS AND CERTAIN FEES CHARGED BY
PAWNBROKERS.

Senator Stillman, Representative Dargan and members of the Committee

My name is Krzysztof Rutkowski I am owner of Tri-City Trading with three locations in New Britain, Enfield and Norwich. I have been in business for over eight years. I started off in a small shop and have branched out into three successful stores. Currently, we have a staff of 20 employees. Some have been with me for a few years and it's a family environment.

We are in support of Bill 5342. We feel that it is important for all precious metal dealers to comply with these guidelines, not just pawnbrokers, in order for us to serve our customers and community effectively.

It is very important for anyone who has a precious metals license to follow the same laws. i.e gold buying parties and jewelry stores. In my town of New Britain this is not being done.

We support clarifying the fee for delivering memorandum. This would clear up any possible misunderstanding on how customers are charged.

The revoking of a license under the current law is unfair. For a license to be taken away with no clear explanation is unjust. There should be due process like all other license holders for any other business.

Having all pawnbrokers and precious metal dealers' computerized will be a great way to keep all records organized and detailed for all law enforcement to view. In my locations we are already doing this and I feel this will only help our business.

Tri-City Trading has had a positive influence in our community such as making contributions to local charities. I am glad to say we have a great relationship with the local law enforcement and other citizens in the surrounding area. I believe that bill 5342 will benefit ourselves, our consumers and law enforcement.

I would like to thank the committee for considering this bill.

Krzysztof Rutkowski